



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE

CITY OF SAN DIEGO – SIXTH COUNCIL DISTRICT

News Release

For Immediate Release
June 14, 2007

Contact: Kevin Smith, District 6:
(619) 533-6469 (office)
(619) 675-4458 (cell)

Kyla Winters, Alpha Project:
(619) 843-8879 (cell)

COUNCILMEMBER FRYE OFFERS FUNDING PROPOSAL and a CHALLENGE

Asks Mayor and Council to Keep Homeless Winter Shelter Funding in 2008 Budget

Today, at the Neil Good Day Center Councilmember Donna Frye offered a proposal to fund the Homeless Winter Shelter and to help raise more funds to for a permanent solution. Bob McElroy, President and CEO of Alpha Project, and members of the homeless community joined Frye to support her proposal.

Frye proposed the following to show the City's commitment to helping find a permanent funding source for the winter shelter:

- Keep the \$465,000 in the 2008 budget until such time as another City funding source is identified;
- Use the \$465,000 as a "matching fund program" to challenge members of the philanthropic community to match the City of San Diego's contribution;
- Use the City's share to fund the Homeless Winter Shelter for this fiscal year;
- Use the community's \$465,000 to establish a fund towards a permanent shelter location

"I am asking the Mayor to please withdraw his veto and keep the Homeless Winter Shelter funding in the 2008 budget, at least until other City funds are identified. If we expect others to commit to helping solve this problem, we must first make our own commitment. I am dedicated to helping solve this problem and raising funds, however, it is much easier to do that if I can assure people that our City will match their contribution up to a total of \$465,000," said Frye.

“This past year, the Winter Shelter housed 216 homeless each night and served more than 1,500 people during the entire season with outreach, housing, food and support services,” said McElroy. “By making an early financial commitment to fund the program, the City of San Diego will not only ensure that our homeless have shelter this winter, but also provide a funding base to raise additional funds for those most in need.”

Frye and McElroy said they will be back at the Neil Good Day Center within one week to announce how much money they have been able to raise by using the City’s \$465,000 as matching funds.